

WE have authorized Mr CLAVE BUDDE  
to sign our Firm from this date.  
DREYER & Co.  
Hongkong, January 1, 1868.



## Notices to Consignees.

"OARMARTHENSHE," FROM LONDON.  
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are requested to send their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods.  
Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.  
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.  
Hongkong, February 10, 1868.

"SUOMI," FROM GLASGOW.  
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are requested to send their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods.  
Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.  
ANKHOLD KARBBERG & Co.  
Hongkong, February 8, 1868.

"SOPHIE," FROM LONDON.  
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are requested to send their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods.  
Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.  
BIRLEY & Co.  
Hongkong, January 28, 1868.

"VIRGEN DEL CARMEN," FROM MANILA.  
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel, will please send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature, and take immediate delivery of their Goods.  
Cargo impeding the discharge of the vessel will be landed and stored at the risk and expense of the Consignees.  
AUGUSTINE HEARD & Co.  
Hongkong, December 16, 1867.

"AYON," FROM LONDON.  
CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above-named Vessel are requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersigned for countersignature and take immediate delivery of their Goods.  
Cargo impeding the discharge of this vessel will be landed and stored at consignees' risk and expense.  
GILMAN & Co.,  
Agents ship "Ayon."  
Hongkong, February 7, 1868. 146

## Notices of Firms.

NOTICE.  
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. A. D. MITCHELL in our Firm, ceased on the 21st day of December, 1867.  
A. FERGUSON & Co.  
Hongkong, January 3, 1868.

NOTICE.  
FROM and after this date Mr. GEORGE F. BOWMAN will act as AGENT of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company at this Port.  
S. L. PHELPS,  
Agent.  
Hongkong, August 15, 1867.

NOTICE.  
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. A. FERGUSON in our Firm, ceased on the 1st day of November, 1867.  
A. FERGUSON & Co.

NOTICE.  
THE Business will be henceforth carried on under the same Name by the Undersigned.  
A. D. MITCHELL,  
J. D. MEYER,  
and HENRY FERHUS.  
Hongkong, December 16, 1867. 146-68

NOTICE.  
MESSRS. H. P. M. WACHS and H. ALPHRICH have ceased to be Partners in our Firm, since the 31st December ultimo.  
GAYMAN & Co.,  
Nagasaki, January 1, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
I HAVE established myself in business as Merchant and Commission Agent, under the style or firm of KHAKKE MAHOMED KUTUBRA.  
KHAKKE MAHOMED KUTUBRA.  
Hongkong, February 1, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
DURING the absence of Mr. SHERRIFF KUTUBRA from the Colony, Mr. KHAKKE MAHOMED KUTUBRA is authorized to sign our Firm per procuration.  
SHERRIFF & Co.,  
Hongkong, February 1, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
AS my Engagement ceases in May next, all outstanding Accounts for the past Two Years must be sent in immediately for payment.  
MARY BASTLEWOOD BANDLE,  
Superintendent.  
Hongkong, January 2, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
MR. THOMAS PYKE has this day been admitted a Partner in our Firm.  
BIRLEY & Co.,  
Hongkong, January 2, 1868.

NOTICE.  
NOTICE is hereby given that the Interest and Responsibility of the late Mr. C. JAMESON in our Firm, ceased on the 30th September last.  
The Business will in future be carried on by Mr. J. BARTON under the Name of Style of JAMESON & BARTON, as heretofore.  
JAMESON & BARTON.  
Hongkong, January 2, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
MY Business, as Ship and Insurance Broker, Commission Agent, &c. hitherto carried on by myself, will henceforward be conducted under the style or firm of J. S. HOOK, Son & Co.  
J. S. HOOK.  
Hongkong, September 28, 1867.

NOTICE.  
I HAVE established myself at this port as General Commission Merchant, under the style and firm of GIBBS & CO. PARKER & Co.  
GIBBS & CO. PARKER.  
Saigon, December 20, 1867.

NOTICE.  
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. S. J. HOOK in our Firm, ceased on 31st December, 1867.  
SHERRIFF & Co.,  
Hongkong, February 1, 1868. 146

## Notices of Firms.

DURING the absence of Mr. J. H. LADD from the Colony, Mr. T. CUSHING is authorized to sign our Firm per procuration.  
LADD & Co.,  
Hongkong, January 10, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. T. KUMMENACHER in our Firm, ceased on the 31st December, 1867.  
SANDER & Co.,  
Hongkong, February 1, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
THE Undersigned having disposed of their Business as Shipwrights, &c. to Messrs. J. McDONALD & Co., and being about to leave the Colony, request all parties having any CLAIMS against them to send them in for payment on or before the 10th instant, and all parties INDEBTED to the Firm are requested to make immediate Payment.  
ROSS THOMPSON & Co.,  
Spring Gardens, February 1, 1868.

DEFERRING to the above, we beg to inform the Public that we have taken over the Business of Messrs. ROSS THOMPSON & Co., and trust by strict attention to Business to merit the patronage of the Community.  
J. McDONALD & Co.,  
Hongkong, February 1, 1868. 146

NOTICE.  
MR. SIDNEY DEACON is authorized to sign our Firm per procuration from this date.  
DEACON & Co.,  
Canton, February 1, 1868.

NOTICE.  
THE Interest and Responsibility of Mr. W. C. VAN OORDT in our Firm, ceased on the 1st January, 1868.  
ROSMAN & Co.,  
Hongkong, November 19, 1867.

NOTICE.  
I HAVE this day established myself as a General Commission Merchant under the style or firm of VAN OORDT & Co.  
(Sd) W. C. VAN OORDT.  
Yokohama, October 24, 1867. 146

## New Advertisements.

WEEKLY GENERAL AUCTION.  
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will sell by Public Auction, at their Sale Rooms, Queen's Road, on

FRIDAY,  
14th February, 1868, at Noon.—  
Their usual varied assortment, comprising: An Invoice of PERFUMERY, including—  
Essences of Bergamot, Maréchalle, Verbena, Rose, Lavender Water, Smelling Salts, Cold Cream, Bears' Grease, Macassar and Jamaica Pomades, Lip Salve, Milk of Roses, Marrow Oil, Oil of Roses, Shaving and Toilet Soap, Essence of Ginger and Peppermint, Seltitz and Soda Powders, assorted Bonbons and Lozenges.  
Etc.  
Also,  
100 dozen SCISSORS,  
100 MUSKETS,  
50 dozen Pocket HANDKERCHIEFS,  
1 Lithographic PRESS,  
And any other GOODS that may offer.  
TERMS or SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.17. All lots with all faults and errors of description at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.  
Hongkong, February 12, 1868. 146

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG, IN BANKRUPTCY.  
NOTICE.—The adjourned First Meeting of Creditors of JOHN DENT, FRANKLIN CHOMLEY, HENRY WILLIAM DENT, ALEXANDER TURNING and HANS PETER HANSEN, trading together in Partnership as Merchants at Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, and in the Empire of China, under the style or firm of DENT and Company, will be held on THURSDAY, the 13th February, 1868, at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at the Supreme Court House.  
Hongkong, February 12, 1868. 136

ENDERS will be received by the Undersigned until Noon, on FRIDAY, the 14th instant, for the erection of a RIGGING SHED at H. M.'s Naval Yard.  
Plans and Specifications can be seen and further information obtained on application at this Office.  
A. H. PRICE,  
Naval Storekeeper.  
H. M.'s Naval Yard,  
11th Feb., 1868. 146

THE Undersigned His Prussian Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Japan, hereby informs the Masters of Merchant Vessels belonging to the North German Confederation that from and after the day on which these ships will hold the Flag of the North German Confederation, they will be admitted to the ports in Japan open to foreign trade under the same privileges and rights as granted to the Merchant Vessels of Prussia by the Treaty concluded between Prussia and Japan on the 24th day of Jan., 1861.  
VON BRANDT.  
Osaka, January 28, 1868. 146

PER MAIL STEAMER.  
Suitable for Christmas Presents.  
A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT of Meerschaum PIPES with and without Cherrywood Stems, OIGAR HOLDERS, ALBUMS, Real Havana CIGARS, etc., etc., BIELFELD and ZACHARIAE.  
Hongkong, December 20, 1867.

FOR SALE.  
A FEW cases of very superior SHERRY, just received ex "Chateau Queen."  
H. Superior Amontillado SHERRY in 8 doz. cases.  
H. Superior Oloroso SHERRY in 3 doz. cases.  
H. Extra Superior SHERRY in 2 doz. cases.  
H. Superior (cask) SHERRY in 1 doz. cases.  
Apply to  
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,  
Hongkong, January 27, 1868.

## New Advertisements.

GREY ARAB HORSE FOR SALE.  
FOURTEEN Hands and upwards, quiet to ride or drive, and carries a Lady well; age under 7 years. Price very moderate.  
Apply by Letter to "X. Y." Office of this Paper.  
Hongkong, February 4, 1868.

ROOFING AND SHEATHING FELT.  
CONSTANTLY on hand for Sale by the Undersigned.  
ROZARIO & Co.,  
Hongkong, January 29, 1868.

FOR SALE.  
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, complete.  
MULLER & CLAUSSEN.  
Hongkong, January 13, 1868.

SELLING OFF! SELLING OFF!!  
SELLING OFF!!!  
GREAT SACRIFICES!!!  
SPLENDID BARGAINS!!!

MULLER & CLAUSSEN.  
BEG to announce that they are Selling Off their stocks of the undermentioned GOODS at Invoice prices, consisting of: Black Cloth Dress FROCK and Walking COATS, Melton and Angola Walking, Shooting and SAC COATS, Melton and Witney YACHT JACKETS and OVER COATS, Alpaca and Merino COATS, Black Dress TROUSERS, Fancy Buckskin, Angola and Tweed TROUSERS, Alpaca and Merino TROUSERS, White and Colored Linen TROUSERS, Black Dress VESTS, Buckskin and Angola VESTS, Merino and Alpaca VESTS, White Marcella and Linen VESTS, Colored Linen VESTS.

A large lot of PIECE GOODS, comprising: Black and Blue Broad CLOTHS and DOB KINS, MELTONS, BUCKSKINS, ANGOLAS, TWEEDS and FINNELLS, of this Season's Patterns.

Also a new assortment of HOSIERY and SHIRTS of—  
LONG CLOTH, with Linen FRONTS, &c., Silk and Wool SHIRTS, Merino, Cotton, Lambwool and Flannel DRAWERS and UNDER VESTS, Merino, Cotton and Lambwool HALF HOSE, LADIES' GOTTON HOSE, Don't Kid and Driving GLOVES, COLLARS, SCARFS, TIES, Cholera BELTS and Cambric HANDKERCHIEFS, Christy's Silk and Felt HATS, in the newest Shapes, Dawson's BOOTS and SHOES, UMBRELLAS, Walking STICKS, Cloth and Hair BRUSHES, PERFUMERY, Fancy SOAPS, And a great variety of other GOODS.

MULLER and CLAUSSEN,  
Queen's Road,  
Hongkong, February 5, 1868.

JUST RECEIVED PER "ALBERT VICTOR."  
(Direct from London.)  
DESSERT CLARET in cases one dozen each.  
CHATEAU MARGAUX, \$15.  
CHATEAU LYOILLE, \$13.  
CHATEAU D'YSSAN, \$9.  
Also,  
Breakfast CLARET, \$4.  
G. DUBOST & Co.,  
Hongkong, January 31, 1868. 146

SAYLE & Co.,  
Victoria Exchange.

SOLICIT inspection of their NEW STOCK, specially prepared for the coming Season, forming the largest and best assortment of GOODS they have yet offered.

(Comprising)—  
Black Glaces, Plain and Fancy Silks, at old prices, Linsey, Rep, Wool Plaids, and all the newest designs for Ladies' Dresses, a large assortment of Evening and Ball Dresses, Embroidered, Printed, and made-up Skirts, Crinolines, Muslin Blouses and Laces of all descriptions, The newest styles in Dress Trimmings, Ladies' Trimmed Hats and Bonnets, Flowers, Feathers, Wreaths, etc. MANTLES and JACKETS of the newest designs and materials. The Millinery and Dress Making Departments are under the management of two experienced West End assistants. The Tailoring Department is now well supplied with every description of Cloth, for Autumn Wear, including Blue, Black and Scarlet Broad Cloths, Blue and Black DOESKINS, Naval and Military CLOTHS, 3/4 and 6/4 TWEEDS and Doeskins, Witneys, Beavers, &c. Ladies' and Gentlemen's Kid Gloves from well-known Makers, TIES and SCARFS in great variety, Felt Tapestry and Brussels Carpets, Matting and Floor Cloths, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Hosiery of all makes, Latest Styles Household Linens of every description, Black and Drab Felt HATS, Black and Drab Paris and Beaver Dress Hats.  
Hongkong, September 24, 1867.

## Post-Office Notifications.

STEAM FOR Singapore, Point de Galle, Aden, Suez, Malta, Marseilles, and Southampton.  
BOMBAY, Madras, and Calcutta.  
THE PANAMA AND OCEANIC STEAM Navigation Company's Steamship "MALACCA," Capt. P. S. TOMLIN, will leave this port for the above places, on WEDNESDAY, 26th February, at 7 A.M. CARGO will be received on board until Noon on the 26th instant; and PARCELS until Noon on the 26th instant. For particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply at the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong.

CONTENTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES ARE REQUIRED.  
A written declaration of the Contents and Value of the Packages for the Overland Route is required by the Egyptian Government, and must be delivered by the Shippers to the Company's Agents with the Bills of Lading, or with Parcels; and the Company do not hold themselves responsible for any detention or prejudice which may happen from incorrectness on such declaration.  
Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.  
W. MACAULAY, Superintendent.  
Hongkong, February 12, 1868.

MAILS WILL CLOSE.—  
FOR SHANGHAI.—To-morrow, the 13th inst., at 4 P.M.

MAILS BY THE "MALACCA."  
The Contract Packet "MALACCA" will be dispatched with the usual Mails for Europe, &c., on WEDNESDAY, the 26th inst., at 7 A.M., and the Post Office will be open for the reception of Ordinary Letters, Letters for Registration, Newspapers, Books, &c., until 9 P.M. on the 26th inst.; Letters, &c., may be posted in the night box from 9 P.M. on the 26th inst. until 9 A.M. on the following morning.  
All Letters posted between 5 and 6 A.M. on the 26th inst. will be chargeable, in addition to the usual postage, with a Late Fee of 18 cents.  
The latest time for posting Letters at this Office is 6 A.M. and for Newspapers, Books, or Patterns 5 A.M. on the 26th inst.

Further, late letters (but Letters only) addressed to the United Kingdom and Mauritius or to Singapore, may be posted on board the Packet from 6.30 to 6.50 A.M. on payment of a late fee of 48 cents each, in addition to the postage, after which no Letters can be received.  
Sealed Boxes containing the correspondence of Box Holders will be received at the window set apart for the purpose, on the East Side of the building, until 11 A.M. on the 26th inst. All correspondence for places to which prepayment is compulsory must be prepaid in Hongkong Postage Stamps.  
Insufficiently-stamped Letters addressed to the United Kingdom will be sent on, charged with a fine of One Shilling in addition to the postage.  
Letters posted after 6 A.M. on the 26th inst. will not be forwarded unless the Late Fee as well as the postage is prepaid.  
Letters insufficiently stamped or unstamped addressed to places to which they cannot be forwarded unpaid, will be opened and returned to the writers as early as possible, but no guarantee can be given that such Letters, if posted after 9 A.M. on the 26th inst., will be returned until after the mail is closed.

Postage Stamps should be placed on the upper right-hand corner of the correspondence, except in cases where they may be used in payment of "Late Fees," when the stamp or Stamps representing the late fee should be placed on the lower left-hand corner.  
All transactions in fractional parts of a Dollar will be conducted in the Coins prescribed by Ordinances 1, of 1864, and the Proclamation of the 22nd January, 1864, and no other Coins, but those therein specified, will either be received or given in change as fractional parts of a Dollar.  
Payment for Postage Stamps must be made in the current Dollars of the Colony or Bank Notes.

F. W. MITCHELL,  
Postmaster General.  
General Post-Office,  
Hongkong, February 12, 1868.

UNDER DESPATCH.  
For Shanghai.—Per China; to-morrow, the 13th inst., at 5 P.M.

ARRIVALS.  
Feb. 12, Lombard, French ship, 550, Shanghai, Sundries.—REYNOLDS BROS. & Co.  
Feb. 12, Steamer, British barque, 460, R. M. Taylor, Sydney, Dec. 4, 700 tons Coals.—A. HEARD & Co.

DEPARTURES.  
Feb. 12, China, for Bombay, &c., 12, Yuen, for East Coast.  
Feb. 12, Puyugama, for East Coast.  
Feb. 12, Valente, for Macao.  
Feb. 12, Iry, for Bangkok.  
Feb. 12, Nuchaf, for Bangkok.  
Feb. 12, Coringa, for Manila.

CLEARED.  
Energy, for Newchwang.  
Siphe, for Whampoa.

SHIPPING REPORTS.  
The Brit. barque Bennett, from Sydney, reports variable weather and light winds, and calls the fleet part of the passage; the latter part with light variable winds and calm. Crossed the Equator on Jan. 17th, in long. 170° E.; 60 days out. On 23rd Jan. spoke the Dutch barque Jonson, from Rotterdam, N.S.W., bound to Hongkong, 42 days out, in lat. 8° 30' N. long. 161° E.

## QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 12th February, 1868.  
OPPIUM.—Patna, New, \$397 1/2  
Old, 675  
Benares, New, 675  
Old, 675  
Malwa, 725

Exchange.  
Bank 6 months' sight, 4/8  
Credits 6, 4/9  
On Calcutta, 3 days' sight, Rs. 219 a 219  
On Bombay, 3 days' sight, Rs. 218 a 219  
Shanghai, 3 days' sight Bank, Tls. 74  
Bar Silver, 17 dwts. B., 11 1/2 per cent. pre.  
Sycee, 10 1/2 per cent. pre.  
Mexicans, 2 per cent. pre.  
Gold Leaf, 23 1/2 per cent. pre.  
Gold Bar, 98 touch, 23 1/2

English Sovereigns, 4 1/2  
Australian Sovereigns, 4 1/2  
Draughts, 4 1/2  
Gas Company Shares, 40 per Share.  
H. & W. pea dock, Old, 25 per cent. pm.  
Do. do. New, 15 per cent. pm.  
H. & S. Bank Shares, Old, 12 1/2 per cent. pm.  
Do. do. New, 2.  
Union Dock Shares, 27 1/2 per cent. dis.

Temperature.  
HONGKONG, 12th February, 1868.  
Barometer, 30.112 30.024  
Attached Thermometer, 65 67  
Dry Bulb, 66.0 65.0  
Wet Bulb, 61.0 61.0  
Maximum S. Rgr., 71.5  
Minimum S. Rgr., 61.0  
Max. Surface Temp., 72.0  
Minimum on Grass, 57.0  
Previous Rain on Ground, 0.07  
24 hours, 1.0 above, 0.06  
Wind, 1.0 E. E.  
Force, 1.0 1  
Cloud, 8 7  
Ozone, 4 3  
Weather, Dull. Dull.

NOTES AND QUERIES ON CHINA AND JAPAN.  
No. 1, Vol. 2, is now ready.  
Price, \$6.00 or £1.5.0 per annum.  
Hongkong: C. A. SAINT.  
London: F. ALGAR.

Early orders for back numbers of this popular periodical are requested, as the edition is nearly exhausted.

BIRTH.  
At Hongkong, on the 12th instant, the wife of Mr. Charles Osmund of a Daughter.

THE CHINA MAIL.  
HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12, 1868.

SECURITY CHOPS.  
The notification recently issued about Chinese Security chops has a most important bearing upon the fortunes of Hongkong. There are few mercantile houses in this colony which are not more or less interested in the stability of firms at various parts of the coast, and those in turn are almost without exception to a greater or less degree, dependent upon Security-chops for their profits or even their very existence. Sir Rutherford Alcock has been freely blamed in some quarters for so easily adopting the Chinese view of the question, which simply amounts to the fact that a security chop is no security at all. A contemporary at Shanghai writes that he is rather entitled to thanks, as having obtained from the Chinese a sort of confession of their feebleness on this point, and of their actual inability to enforce what we consider their claims, by thereby placing in our hands a definite subject of complaint. It is, however, questionable whether the action taken by the Minister in giving public currency to a document local in its nature, unjust in its law, and we fear similar in effect on the Chinese mind to the well known advice not to put an obnoxious individual under the pump, is not an unmitigated evil, inasmuch as it will suggest evasion where it was previously unthought of, hamper Consular action when evasion is attempted, and bring upon us the undisguised contempt of every Chinese official who is unable to comprehend any other reasons for non-enforcement of demands than fear or a conviction of the uselessness of the attempt. The Shanghai and Hankow journals have been unanimous in condemning the notification, and after a careful consideration of the matter we are disposed to share their opinion. The *Hankow Times*, which discusses the subject with its usual ability, puts the case very clearly in the following words:—

It is a matter of notoriety that suits of a very questionable character have been brought by foreigners against the guarantors of their contractors, when these individuals have been over-trading as the partners, or tools of these firms, engaged in the rankest speculation. It is the wilful confusion of the proper responsibility of the collateral securities or protectors, who are not so foolish as to undertake vague liabilities for any or every transaction of the securities, which has prejudiced the whole business. If a man is secured by another as a shroff, his security properly insists upon his liability being strictly confined to acts done in this capacity only. The unreasonable demands of certain parties have induced the Chinese authorities to ignore, in such cases, the proper liability of this class of business-agents.

We make bold to say that the ordinary decisions of the local courts of law, and the precedents of local custom, are exactly the opposite of what is reported in this document. We have examined the 14th and other sections of the Chinese Code, and we find the law to be as distinct as possible in laying down the responsibility of such securities. Instances might be quoted from the *Tsien-shu*, a sort of record of cases and precedents in Law and Equity, which is periodically issued, in proof of the full and just law. We have carefully interrogated a number of persons connected with the trade of Hankow, before the opening of this port to foreign merchants, and they unanimously report, the practice of this port to be the effect that all such securities are fully responsible for the particular transactions which they become parties to.

They also affirm the continuance of this recognized liability up to the present time among native traders.

The same journal traces much of the trouble experienced at Hankow to the Cantonese contractors whose registry has brought about a general distrust. It is of course unnecessary to discuss the question of liability as regards Hongkong, as any such transactions are entered into under British law, and that law is clear on the subject of guarantee, it being held to be precisely the responsibility undertaken by the endorser of a promissory note. But the effects of this ill-judged step on the part of the Minister may be only secondary in their ill-effects to a similar one on the part of the Colonial government. We can arrive at no other conclusion than that the Minister has deliberately played into the hands of the Chinese for the purpose of strengthening the most imperative demand upon the subject at the date of the revision, or is guilty of an ignorance of Chinese matters so profound, and has a judgment so weak, that the complaints against him are more than justified. Mr. Medhurst may have correctly stated what he was informed by the Chinese officials; but even Mr. Medhurst's authority for a practice at Hankow is no justification for applying his statement to the whole of the Treaty ports. Will the Chambers of Commerce take any notice of the blunder?

CANTON AFFAIRS.  
We hear from private, though indisputable sources, that the difficulty respecting the Canton Fu-tai, Cheong-Yek-Li, has been at length settled by a general degradation and removal of all concerned.

Suy Liu 瑞麟, the Governor-General, is deprived of office and recalled to Peking. Cheong Yek Li, the Governor of Canton, presented some time since a memorial to the throne praying that he might be relieved from the cares of civil office and allowed to take the field against the rebels in Shantung. Instead of this prayer being assented to, he is now degraded two steps, (to the rank of Judge of Assize) and deprived of office. The lowest in rank of the three offenders and perhaps the least responsible for the extravagancies and expenses of the Hakka campaign 郭祥瑞, the Treasurer of the province, is in the usual course of such matters, punished the most severely. He is degraded four steps, to the rank of 直隸州, Chi Li-Chou, and is deprived of official employ.

Say liu's place is to be filled by Low Pang, the present Viceroy of Fukien and Chekiang provinces, and Li-fu-tai, the present Governor of Fukien, is to fill the post vacated by Cheong Yek Li. The present governor of Chekiang, Ma Hsu Yi, is made Viceroy of Min-che, in place of Wu Tung and Ting pin Chang sometime Viceroy of Shanghai, and a protégé of Tseng kwo-fai's, at present Treasurer, is to be Governor Fu-tai of Chiang-su, in place of Kuo-poh-Yin, promoted to the Viceroyalty of Hu-chung.

Just before going to press a rumour reaches us from Whampoa that Cheong Yek Li has left Canton with a party of troops, intending to raise the standard of Rebellion. We give the rumour for what it is worth and knowing the strange vicissitudes of Chinese political life hesitate to express a total disbelief in its truth.

We hear that the affidavits and papers in the local "contempt of court" case have been sent to the Chief Justice, accompanied with a request for explanation of certain parts thereof.

LOCAL.  
The Band of the 73rd Regiment will not perform in the Public Gardens on Tuesday, the 18th instant; but will play at the Races to be held on that and the two following days.

We would direct attention to the announcement in another column of the Grand Concert to be given this evening at the Theatre Lusitano, by Signores Reina and Pizzillo, and Signora Ponti, commencing at half-past eight.

Visitors at the Race Course will, at the next meeting, find accommodation which many of them have missed on former occasions. Mr. E. Holmes, of the "Star" Hotel, has received permission to erect a refreshment booth within the limit of the stewards' jurisdiction, and no person need depend on chance hospitality, or the right of private entry, to satisfy the cravings of the inward man. The viands which Mr. Holmes will provide are sure to be excellent.

CONTENT OF COURT.  
Mr. Moore, the gentleman in the employ of the P. & O. Company, who was charged by the Sheriff (Mr. Tomlinson) with having refused to give his Christian name to the Sheriff's officer, was brought up before the Chief Justice this morning. The affidavit drawn up by the Sheriff stated that the expression used by Mr. Moore was "that he would not do it [i.e., give the name, or sign the paper] even if he did not here." Defendant said that he did not recollect having used such an expression, but if he did, he was certainly sorry for having done so. He was very busy at the time in the yard, and asked the Bailiff to call again in the morning, when he would give all the information required.—The Attorney General observed that the full penalty for the offence was \$100, but thought that a mitigated penalty would meet the case. His Worship committed the case to the learned Attorney General, and imposed a fine of \$25.

The *Shanghai Recorder* of the 7th inst. contains a notice which was brought yesterday by the steamer *Peking* to the effect, namely, that the French Legation has been attacked by Samsun's troops, and that the foreign residents will have to leave the place. A correspondent writing from Kobe, under

date of 31st January, states: "Yesterday evening, that news has come of Samsun's attack on the French Legation. The Minister sent a telegram to the Legation frigate to fire; but 'just gone.' They say foreigners will have to leave and where with our strong fleet we are safe. So many rumours are current, that one does not know believe."

Sir Edmund Hornby, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, intends, we hear, to perambulate Suwonada for Hongkong, it is stated, go on circuit to the Southern Consular Court taking cognizance of the result of interesting trials which are at present on in Hongkong.

TO-DAY'S POLICE.  
John Menzies, Purveyor to the forces in China and Japan, charged the boy for some time, the money lay there for two days disappeared. When complainant the money, defendant was absent house, contrary to a standing order his master; and when questioned money, he looked scared and knowledge of the call for. On being a pocket-handkerchief belonging to Menzies, a was found on him. Menzies, with twenty-five paws Capt. Hodgson, on being sworn, the prisoner was in his employ 146

ber last; at that time, he missed immediately subsequent to which disappeared to Canton. This was told by Captain Menzies the handkerchief with his name on the back of the collar of the prisoner. A handkerchief was called for, but a dirty rag was produced, which Mr. at once pronounced to be a different one found. On enquiry, it that, on his way to the Station, ner had the handkerchief given him; and whether he had by so passed the marked handkerchief to the Station, or hid it in a pocket in the cell for the means of the one now produced as a false witness to find the handkerchief. Faction fights do not appear fined to the mainland. Some do not a disturbance, which ended broken heads, but which vents the roots of the trouble in the great body of the rioters. For were charged with a highway robbery, last night upon a woman charge appeared to be in some needed with faction feeling still in that "infernal region." A charge produced (in Chinese) and read, -ported to emanate from one of prisoners, calling upon one in another to come out and fight, and on pain of being denounced as a would-be duellist by the witness fused the challenge. It appeared brought on a sort of Donnybrook some 3000 joined. From information to the police by this "gentle refused the challenge, Inspector a party of police visited a house notorious as being a receptacle for our second Thugland in the case of the body of the rioters. For were charged with a highway robbery, last night upon a woman charge appeared to be in some needed with faction feeling still in that "infernal region." A charge produced (in Chinese) and read, -ported to emanate from one of prisoners, calling upon one in another to come out and fight, and on pain of being denounced as a would-be duellist by the witness fused the challenge. It appeared brought on a sort of Donnybrook some 3000 joined. From information to the police by this "gentle refused the challenge, Inspector a party of police visited a house notorious as being a receptacle for our second Thugland in the case of the body of the rioters. For were charged with a highway robbery, last night upon a woman charge appeared to be in some needed with faction feeling still in that "infernal region." A charge produced (in Chinese) and read, -ported to emanate from one of prisoners, calling upon one in another to come out and fight, and on pain of being denounced as a would-be duellist by the witness fused the challenge. It appeared brought on a sort of Donnybrook some 3000 joined. From information to the police by this "gentle refused the challenge, Inspector a party of police visited a house notorious as being a receptacle for our second Thugland in the case of the body of the rioters. For were charged with a highway robbery, last night upon a woman charge appeared to be in some needed with faction feeling still in that "infernal region." A charge produced (in Chinese) and read, -ported to emanate from one of prisoners, calling upon one in another to come out and fight, and on pain of being denounced as a would-be duellist by the witness fused the challenge. It appeared brought on a sort of Donnybrook some 3000 joined. From information to the police by this "gentle refused the challenge, Inspector a party of police visited a house notorious as being a receptacle for our second Thugland in the case of the body of the rioters. For were charged



the continuance of this  
up to the present time.

traces much of the  
ed at Hankow to the  
adverses whose rigoury has  
general distrust. It is  
sary to discuss the ques-  
regards Hongkong, as  
adverses are entered into  
and that law is clear  
guarantee, it being held  
the responsibility under-  
dorse of a promissory  
effects of this ill-judged  
of the Minister may be  
er their ill-effects to a  
the part of the Colonial  
to arrive at no other  
that the Minister has  
into the hands of the  
purpose of strengthening  
ative demand upon the  
of the revision, or is  
ance of Chinese matters  
has a judgment so weak,  
his against him are more  
Mr Medhurst may have  
that he was informed  
officials; but even Mr  
ority for a practice at  
attribution for applying  
the whole of the Treaty  
Chambers of Commerce  
of the blunder.

ON AFFAIRS.

Private, though indisput-  
the difficulty respecting  
Li, Cheong Yek-Li, has  
ed by a general degra-  
dation of all concerned.  
The Governor-General,  
and recalled to Peking,  
time since a memorial to  
ying that he might be  
the cares of civil office  
and the field against the rebels.  
Instead of this prayer,  
he is now degraded  
the rank of Judge of  
of the three offenders and  
responsible for the ex-  
penses of the Hakka  
the Treasurer of  
in the usual course of  
punished the most severe  
four steps, to the  
Chi Li-Chon, and his  
sial employ.  
is to be filled by Low  
Viceroy of Fukien  
provinces, and Li-fu-tai,  
ernor of Fukien, is to  
by Cheong Yek Li. The  
of Chekiang, Ma Hsin  
Viceroy of Min-chi, in  
ang and Ting ping Chang  
of Shanghai, and a pro-  
two fangs, at present  
be Governor Yu-tai of  
llee of Kuo-poh-Yin, pro-  
royalty of Hu-kwang,  
going to press a rumour  
Whampoa that Cheong  
Canton with a party of  
to raise the standard of  
ve give the rumour for  
and knowing the strange  
Chinese political life heat-  
a total disbelief in its  
the affidavits and papers  
competent of court case  
to the Chief Justice,  
with a request for expla-  
nations thereof.

LOCAL.

the 73rd Regiment will not  
Public Gardens on Tuesday,  
but will play at the Rues  
that and the two following

ATTENTION TO THE ANNOUNCE-

ment of the Court. The  
the gentleman in the employ  
Company, who was charged  
Mr. Tommety, with having  
his Christian name to the  
was brought up before the  
this morning. The affidavits  
the Sheriff stated that the  
by Mr. Moore was "that  
of [i.e., give the name, or  
even if the Governor were  
ant said that he did not  
used such an expression  
He was certainly sorry for  
He was very busy at the  
down, and asked the Bailiff  
the morning, when he would  
information required. The  
real observed that the full  
to office was \$100, but he  
mitigated penalty would  
The Worship concerned in  
learned Attorney General  
of \$25.

Recorder of the 7th  
was brought yesterday  
along to the effect, namely,  
Legation has been attacked  
troops, and that the foreign  
live to leave the place.

date of 31st January, states: We hear this  
greeting that news has come down from  
Gaska to the effect that Batanna has at-  
tacked the city and fired upon the French  
Legation. The Minister sent down an  
express for the Laplace frigate to go up and  
has just gone. They say that all  
foreigners will have to leave and come here,  
where with our strong fleet we are tolerably  
safe. So many rumours are current, how-  
ever, that one does not know what to  
believe.

Sir Edmund Hornby, Chief Judge of the  
Supreme Court, intends, we hear, leaving  
per steamer *Stonarda* for Hongkong. He  
will, it is stated, go on circuit to some of  
the Southern Consular Courts, besides  
taking cognisance of the result of some  
interesting trials which are at present going  
on in Hongkong.

TO-BAY'S POLICE.

John Menzies, Purveyor to H. M.'s  
forces in China and Japan, charged his  
house-boy with theft. He said he had con-  
sidered the boy for some time, and to try  
him he placed \$1.30 on his looking-glass;  
the boy lay there for two days, and then  
disappeared. When complainant missed  
the money, defendant was absent from the  
house, contrary to a standing order from  
his master; and when questioned as to the  
money, he looked scared and denied all  
knowledge of the theft. On being searched,  
a pocket-handkerchief belonging to Captain  
Hodson, R.N., was found upon his person,  
together with twenty-five pawntickets.  
Gibson, on being sworn, said that the  
prisoner was in his employ in November  
last; at that time, he missed a \$50 note,  
immediately subsequent to which prisoner  
disappeared to Canton. This morning he  
was told by Captain Menzies that a hand-  
kerchief with his name on the corner had  
been found on the prisoner. When the  
handkerchief was examined for, however,  
duty was produced, which Mr Menzies  
at once pronounced to be a different one to  
the one found. On enquiry, it appeared  
that, on his way to the Station, the pris-  
oner had the handkerchief given back to  
him; and whether he had by some means  
passed the marked handkerchief on his way  
to the Station, or hidden it until he was  
lodged in the cells (the latter while pre-  
sented the one now produced as the real  
one at the Watch Station) is not known.  
His Worship remanded the case to en-  
able the police to find the handkerchief.

Faction fights do not appear to be con-  
fined to the mainland. Some days ago, we  
noted a disturbance, which ended in a few  
broken heads, but which vented through  
the roofs of Tai-ping-shan in the escape of the  
great body of the rioters. Four Chinamen  
were charged with a highway robbery com-  
mitted on last night upon a Roman, which  
charge appeared to be in some way con-  
nected with faction feeling still smouldering  
in that "infernal region." A challenge was  
produced (in Chinese) and read, which pur-  
ported to emanate from one of the four  
prisoners, calling upon one in complainant's  
brother to come out and fight single-handed  
on pain of being denounced as "no gentle-  
man." First prisoner was identified as the  
would-be duellist by the witness who  
told the challenge. It appears that this  
brought on a sort of Donnybrook, in which  
some 3000 joined. From information given  
to the police by this "gentleman," who  
retired the challenge, Inspector Sheard and  
a party of police visited a house which was  
notorious as being a receptacle for uproar-  
ious soundings of Tai-ping-shan. In  
this house, which was found (about 6 feet  
long on which the names of over 100 mem-  
bers of an association were painted, which  
association seemed to be a league to back  
up any of its members by money or force  
when they got into trouble. This was the  
same house into which the bulk of the  
crowd escaped at the last disturbance; and  
although reported twice to Mr Smith, regis-  
ter general, and Mr Deane, acting super-  
intendent of Police; has been looked  
after. First prisoner's name was on the  
board; and a heavy bludgeon was found  
by Inspector Sheard on his person. Al-  
though Police Interpreter, stated that the  
complainant informed the Police on the  
evening of the 10th of the purpose of fight  
and disturbance. The house in question  
was a haunt of unemployed coolies, and had  
been reported before to Mr Deane, and also  
to Mr Smith, R.N. Interpreter, in defence,  
however, stated that the complainant Chi-  
tanna was the man who offered to fight,  
saying that he could undertake to fight  
even men like him. He at first refused;  
but getting angry, he asked the brothel-  
keeper to go and get permission from the  
police, and have a pitched battle. He  
never wrote any challenge. His Worship  
informed the prisoners that it was fortu-  
nate for them that the intended fight did  
not come off, had it done so, they would  
have been sent to the Supreme Court. He  
would fine the first prisoner \$5, or send him  
three months to prison, and he would fine  
two secondaries of \$200 each to keep the  
peace; 2nd prisoner was fined 40s or 1  
month's imprisonment, and also ordered  
to work. The other prisoners were dis-  
charged. Complainant was cautioned and  
ordered to find security for future good  
behaviour. (His Worship also intimated  
that he would take the next case of distur-  
bance to the Supreme Court.)

Tax "Heaven's" Cane.—Seven Chinese  
were brought up on remand charged with  
having stolen a quantity of treasure from  
the British steamer *Reiser*. Messrs Gaskell  
and Toller appeared for the prisoners. Mr  
Gaskell, who appeared for the prosecution,  
stated that they had been in house of get-  
ting further evidence from Singapore, but  
in this hope they had been disappointed;  
but they would now go with the case. The  
Chinese boy to 3rd officer, declared that  
he heard a conversation on board, in which  
Kwok Ayan and Chun Aing took part.  
They are both now in dock. Kwok Ayan  
said, "Some men are good, some are bad;  
if they make me go to Gaol, when I come  
back, I shall kill these three men." Chun  
Aing said, "Last Sunday, in Calcutta,  
when the 3rd officer and six-pawmen went  
into the treasure room, they put a box of  
treasures overboard and took the butter  
home." Some one said that the box had  
been opened, and some said it hadn't;  
some said that the box was broken open  
and burnt. Witness continued to say that,  
while at Singapore one Sunday, when on  
board, he saw the prisoner (Aning) going  
into a brothel with a bundle; he followed  
him. There he heard something heavy  
falling from the bed; and looking through  
the partition, he saw something "red,"  
which looked like silver. 1st prisoner said  
that the next time he came back he would  
have his discharge. The prostitute whom  
prisoner thus addressed carried away the  
bundle. Witness left Aning in the brothel.  
He has been to Singapore since then with

Inspector Langdon, and visited this brothel;  
the prostitute was taken into custody by  
the Singapore authorities. Cross-examined  
by Mr Gaskell. Witness said that he was  
not afraid now, though he was formerly.  
He could swear that what he saw in the  
bundle was not chalk, but that it was  
silver; he would say that it was about 3  
or 4 lbs. But he could not see any stamp  
on it. What he saw would be about one  
third of a bar. He had not seen the con-  
tents of the box alleged as stolen. Inspector  
Langdon next deposed, that he went to  
Singapore, taking last witness with him.  
Went to a brothel and there saw the room  
in which last witness saw the bundle  
through a rent in the partition. The bed  
faced the rent. The prostitute in that  
house was taken into custody and charged  
by the Singapore police. She was charged  
as the woman who received the silver  
from a man now in dock. He knew  
nothing more about the case. Mr Gaskel-  
l well asked for a remand until the 5th  
returned on or about the 5th proximo.  
There was enough evidence even  
now to commit; but they might obtain  
further evidence; while at the same time  
the 3rd officer's evidence was material to  
the hearing at the Supreme Court. Mr  
Gaskell objected to this application. The  
Magistrate said that it was a very impor-  
tant case. It was clear that some of the  
prisoners had a knowledge of the robbery,  
and he thought he would grant the appli-  
cation. Mr Gaskell said that the evidence  
was so exceedingly meagre, and the re-  
mains had been so frequent, that the sound  
discretion laid down by Lord Mansfield as  
looked for from a Magistrate ought to be  
used in liberating his clients. It would be  
extremely hard upon an able inspector had  
fallen to find any further evidence, and that  
the prisoners had been in Gaol so long that  
they should now be again back. Would  
the Attorney General be able to draw an in-  
formation from the depositions now before  
the Court? Mr Toller then supported the  
remarks of Mr Gaskell, saying that they  
applied the more strongly to his clients,  
because there was no evidence whatever  
against them. His Worship said that, with  
all respect to what Mr Gaskell and Mr Toller  
said, he would remand the prisoners, ad-  
justing them to bail, except the 1st pris-  
oner. — Nos. 2, 6, 7 in two households for  
\$200 each; and the others, two household-  
ers in \$100 each.

SUMMARY JURISDICTION COURT.

Before the Hon. J. B. Hall.  
Wong On v. L. B. B. \$12.00.—This  
case was again postponed, until Tuesday  
next.

The Acting Treasurer v. Leong Chew,  
\$20.00, for Spirit Licences fees due for the  
months of December and January, with-  
drawn by plaintiff.

Same v. Ching Yappang, \$20.00.—Similar  
to the above.

Same v. Leong Mau, \$20.00, for Spirit  
Licences fees due for the months of Dec.  
and Jan.—The defendant did not appear,  
and judgment was therefore given for the plaintiff  
for the full amount.

S. Mendoza v. L. M. Lobo, \$29.15, for  
damages sustained by the plaintiff and for  
money had and received by the defendant  
for the use of the plaintiff. His Lordship  
asked the defendant whether he admitted the  
debt; he answered, No, I don't know these  
things at all. The plaintiff was then put in  
the box and sworn. He said, I am a trader I  
left with the defendant the sum of \$15 for  
payment of my debts, and a suit of clothes  
and a book; these were kept by him, value  
\$20. I received from him the sum of \$8.85,  
and the balance still due \$29.15, is the  
amount which I claim; I have asked for  
payment on various occasions, but the an-  
swer I got from him was that he would pay  
me the money when his friend came from  
Macao.

The defendant asked no questions.  
A witness was called, sworn and said, I  
am a watchman in a gambling-house; I know  
the money and clothes kept by the  
defendant, when the plaintiff was lying  
down on his bed. I went to his house to  
visit him, at the same time he requested me  
to bring a letter to his friend Lobo, so I did  
it; as soon as the defendant saw this let-  
ter he angrily tore and put it in a spittoon.  
The defendant then stepped on the box,  
and having been sworn, stated—I am a  
fiddler; the plaintiff was my friend some  
time since, I know nothing concerning the  
debt; I did not pay him any money, he has  
no receipt to produce.—His Lordship cau-  
tioned the defendant; he ought to make  
a true statement when he stepped on that  
box.—The defendant replied, Yes, this is  
truth what I said; the defendant has no  
witness to prove.—His Lordship, therefore,  
gave judgment for the plaintiff for \$24,  
and made a deduction of \$5.10 from the  
damages, and ordered the defendant to be  
brought up to the Magistracy for perjury.

R. Suiel v. Wm. Footitt, \$28.25, for  
board, lodging, and refreshments supplied  
since May last, at the rate of \$1 per day.  
Defendant admitted \$1.50. His Lordship  
remarked that the plaintiff had not brought  
full particulars before him, therefore the  
Judgment given was for \$1.60.

Nam Sing v. L. Borboen, \$111.50, for  
goods sold and delivered. Mr Gaskell at-  
torney for the plaintiff. Defendant did not  
appear; judgment was, therefore, given for  
the plaintiff, for full amount of his claim  
and costs.

FIRE AT FOCHOOW.

We learn the following from a correspon-

dentifiable exertions of their representa-

LI AND TIEN NIEFEL.

The usual Oriental tendency to hyper-

SUMMARY JURISDICTION COURT.

Before the Hon. J. B. Hall.

Wong On v. L. B. B. \$12.00.—This

The Acting Treasurer v. Leong Chew,

Same v. Ching Yappang, \$20.00.—Similar

Same v. Leong Mau, \$20.00, for Spirit

S. Mendoza v. L. M. Lobo, \$29.15, for

The defendant asked no questions.

A witness was called, sworn and said, I

R. Suiel v. Wm. Footitt, \$28.25, for

Nam Sing v. L. Borboen, \$111.50, for

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FIRE AT FOCHOOW.

insupportable exertions of their representa-

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FIRE AT FOCHOOW.

THE LATE MR. MYBURGH.

(From the Japan Gazette.)

The late British Consul, Francis Gerhardt  
Myburgh, M.D., who died at Higo on the  
24th January, had been in Japan from a  
long anterior to the opening of Yokohama;  
at Nagasaki on 21st January 1859. He  
died on 21st January 1868. He had there-  
fore been connected with the Consular  
service in Japan nine years to a day.  
During that period, all the stirring events  
have taken place in the country of which  
foreigners are told so frequently by those  
who, to show the bearing of present occur-  
rences, are obliged to allude to them more  
or less frequently; but he has not been in  
that particular position that has called forth  
any great diplomatic or magisterial power.  
The "Foreign Office List" thus details his  
services; and of them, when thus given,  
there is but little more to say:—  
[Was appointed Interpreter in the Consu-  
late at Nagasaki, in Japan, January 21,  
1859; was in charge of the Consulate at  
Nagasaki from June 7 to 20; and from  
August 17 to September 24, 1860; was  
appointed Acting Vice Consul there August  
15, 1860; was transferred to Yedo, Decem-  
ber 4, 1860; and was appointed Acting  
Japanese Secretary of Legation, March 4,  
1861; was in charge of the Legation from  
April 9 till July 1, 1861; was Acting Con-  
sul at Nagasaki, from September 20, 1861,  
till July 1862; also in March and April  
1863; and again from July 1863 till Janu-  
ary 26, 1864, when he was appointed Consul  
there. Was transferred to Kanagawa, May  
25, 1867.]

As Japanese Secretary of Legation and  
Dutch interpreter, he was very useful to  
Sir Rutherford Alcock, when he first suc-  
ceeded in inducing the Japanese Ministers  
to those more private discussions, which  
better understanding on both sides. In  
his medical capacity, he rendered such  
services as were required of him, and it  
will be recollected, that he was sent from  
the British Legation to assist poor  
Heusken when he was cut down in Yedo,  
and who had to take back the unpleasant  
tidings that he was beyond medical skill.  
He was in Yedo at the time of the attack  
on the Legation, and assisted in dress-  
ing the wounds of Messrs Olyphant and  
Morrison.

CHINESE AND PRINCE ALFRED.

Among the multitude of addresses pre-  
sented to H.R.H. during his Australian  
tour, was the following one from the Chi-  
nese residents of Castlemaine, Victoria.  
The translation appears to be literal  
enough, and it seemed to possess more in-  
terest for the Prince than the stereotyped  
form to which he had been accustomed:—  
"We of this unimportant (people of the  
great empire of China), from the Pro-  
vinces of Canton and the neighbouring dis-  
tricts, have anxiously waited, Royal Sir,  
your arrival at Castlemaine, to come forth  
and welcome you, Great England's lesser  
lord, one thousand years second in the  
temple below. We bow our heads to the  
ground and let our hands hang down as a  
token of reverence. We maintain that  
posture and in great swelling words give  
utterance. At this propitious time the  
subtle influences are efficacious in the  
ground increasing its fertility, and men are  
become eminent for virtue and talent. The  
earth yields more largely her golden treas-  
ures. We acknowledge with thankfulness  
the gracious love of the reigning dynasty of  
England, which permits our merchants and  
all others to follow their occupations here.  
We have a feeling of profound veneration  
and respect which leads us to obey and  
induce obedience to the royal laws. With  
serious attention we have endeavoured to  
act in accordance with them. When Her  
Majesty, your sacred mother, commenced  
her reign, like the time when the three  
holy Sages, Wong I, Yao and Shun, hung  
the upper and inferior garments on their  
persons, so the whole empire was forthwith  
brought to order and decorum. Your  
Princed, you have come out to examine the  
distant part of the empire, and all the  
people skip for joy in welcoming you. To  
look upon the dragon (royal) countenance  
may be compared to beholding the dark  
clouds and the sun immediately bursting  
forth. We have followed you to the tiger-  
skin covered seat (the levee) with beat-  
ing of drums, vibrating strings, incense, and  
blowing the cheerful reed, mingling  
with every voice singing your virtues,  
which is as high as the vault of Heaven.  
Your benign love is liberally diffused  
and extends to all things. The blessings  
and happiness you confer are as the ocean.  
They multiply and enrich us who are of au-  
thority, although the subjects of this.  
The people love you as the Kaun Hoing  
tree which shaded Chiao Kung, the brother  
of the Emperor Moou. When he stayed his  
horse to shade his four of inspection  
of the empire. Following in your track  
sweet rains fall, making no noise. All  
kindreds and people are improved by your  
example, and thus military operations cease  
and literary pursuits are cultivated. We  
desire earnestly that your royal house shall  
through all ages remain unruined and reign  
continually over a nation so rich and power-  
ful as England is at present. Prolong your  
stay with us until the customs of the peo-  
ple in every nook of our shores are inquired  
into and known by you; then all will be  
exhilarated with delight. When you return  
to the royal court and take the corner place,  
we hope you will sit down in joy with un-  
iversal peace prevailing. Oh! how excellent  
and admirable! How worthy of praise is he  
to whom, with veneration, awe and libid-  
ity, we present our address. In the six-  
teenth, nineteenth of the reign of the Em-  
peror Hong Chie, of the dynasty of T. Tsing,  
English calculation of time, 1867 year, 12th  
month, at Castlemaine, by the flowery na-  
tion (Chinese) this address was humbly pre-  
sented."

One very gratifying incident of the  
Prince's visit, was his presentation of prizes  
to scholars in the Collegiate schools, Mel-  
bourne—a ceremony which was attended  
by leading representatives of the large reli-  
gious denominations as well as by the chief  
of civil political parties. The *Australian*  
remarks:—"There is nothing of which the  
dependencies of Great Britain may boast  
more justly than the development  
they have given to the practice of religious  
toleration. We are afraid to think how  
long it will be before in England four  
schools connected with the great reli-  
gious denominations will meet on common  
ground and yet this was a spectacle which  
we had the pleasure of witnessing on Sat-  
urday. The sight presented by the platform  
was as agreeable as it was suggestive. The  
Bishop of Melbourne was seated in the  
most friendly manner beside Father Len-  
taigne; Dr Cairns was rubbing shoulders  
with Father Barry. In politics, the same

pleasant rapprochement of bitter opponents  
was seen. Mr McCulloch was seated on  
one side of the Prince and Mr O'Shannassy  
on the other. Then the heads of the differ-  
ent public schools formed in themselves at  
once a text and a commentary. A member  
of the Society of Jesus and an elder of the  
Presbyterian Church represent, at least in  
some points, the extremes of Christian  
thought, and yet on this occasion they were  
found heartily co-operating. We may here  
say that the whole affair was conducted in a  
manner extremely creditable to the educa-  
tional heads of the different institutions.  
Such an excellent and conciliatory spirit  
was manifested that not a single disagree-  
ment occurred; and the arrangements which  
were made for the commemoration were  
most efficient and admirably carried out."

MR. WASON'S CONTRIBUTION TO

THE LAW OF LIBEL.

Mr Wason brought an action against  
The Times for libel, contained in speeches  
in the House of Lords, and reported in  
the defendant's columns. The defendant  
pleaded privilege, and obtained a verdict.  
The case is one of great interest to all  
newspapers, as well as to the general public,  
and we transfer the following article upon  
it from the *Pall Mall Gazette* of Dec. 23  
to our own columns:—  
[It would be waste of time to discuss the  
personal questions raised by Mr Rigby  
Wason in his curious action against the  
Times. It is hardly conceivable that the  
should not be heartily applauded by every  
reasonable member of the public, but the  
legal principles which he has illustrated are  
of considerable importance, and have a  
curious bearing upon the whole character  
of the law of libel.  
The Lord Chief Justice in his remark-  
able charge to the jury laid down two pro-  
positions, with neither of which, as we  
believe, either the public or the press will  
be disposed to quarrel, but each of which  
illustrates in a different degree the nature  
of that process of judicial legislation which  
is sometimes denied to exist in our law,  
and which is asserted by others to be one  
of its most distinctive characteristics. The  
first proposition is that a fair publication  
of parliamentary proceedings is privileged.  
The second and much wider proposition is  
that leading articles are to a certain extent  
privileged. In reference to the articles in  
which the Times had criticised Mr Wason's  
proceedings, the Chief Justice says:—  
"Here again the defendant takes his  
ground upon privilege, and he contends  
that it is not for him to prove that the  
statements made as to the plaintiff were  
true, or that the observations upon him  
were right; but that the matter was one of  
public interest, and with which he was  
entitled fairly to deal as a public journal-  
ist." After observing upon the article in  
question, the Chief Justice further added:  
"As the matter was one of public in-  
terest, a public writer had a perfect right  
to discuss the subject—with this limita-  
tion; that he was bound to do so in an  
honest and fair spirit, and a desire to do  
that which is right and just as be-  
tween one man and another. When the  
matter is one of public interest, and even  
though you may not entirely agree in the  
view taken, or the terms employed, or the  
tone adopted, still, if you can see that the  
writer has merely expressed honestly his  
own opinions, it is of vast importance that  
on matters of this nature there should be  
the full and free expression of opinion; and  
a free criticism upon public men; and the  
privilege would not only extend to the criti-  
cism of grounds upon which the criticism pro-  
ceeded, but to the opinions expressed upon  
those facts." This principle is perhaps a  
rather fuller and more systematic statement  
of the doctrine laid down by the same judge  
in the case of *Dunster v. Sharpe* (the pub-  
lisher of this journal). It was earnestly  
contended for, but in vain, by the pub-  
lishers of the *Saturday Review*, in Campbell  
v. *Spalding*; and again, though it has thus  
been twice advanced by the Chief Justice  
of England sitting at Nisi Prius in cases of  
great public interest, it has never yet been  
discussed before and laid down as law by  
any one of the superior courts, nor does  
his Lordship appear to have included it  
in his list of exceptions. As public journal-  
ists we hope it may be true, but we cannot  
rejoice altogether without trembling, for  
reasons which apply more to each of the  
propositions laid down by the Lord  
Chief Justice, and which we will proceed to  
state. Our first observation may appear to  
be of the nature of verbal criticism, but  
law is so much a matter of  
language that such criticism is sel-  
dom out of place in legal discussions.  
It is said that the publication of parliamen-  
tary debates, and the expression of honest  
criticism upon them, are "privileged." Now,  
leading articles, are "privileged." Now,  
the proper meaning of a privilege surely is  
a law made for some particular class of  
persons whereby they are distinguished from  
the rest of the community. Thus it is  
the privilege of a member of Parliament  
to be free from arrest in certain cases.  
The members of certain professions are pri-  
vileged against serving as jurymen. Certain  
classes of society are privileged against  
being imprisoned. If particular  
people (say, the Queen's printers) were  
licensed to publish the debates in Parlia-  
ment and were indemnified from all actions  
for doing so, that would be their privilege  
in the proper sense of the word; but if, as  
is the case, it is open to all the world to do  
so, where is the privilege? The publica-  
tion may be legal or illegal, but if legal it  
is a matter of right, and it is surely in-  
correct to describe the exercise of a legal right  
as a privilege. Who, for instance, would say  
that the public have a privilege of walking  
along the Strand? The great objection to  
the use of the word privilege in this  
manner is that it gives countenance to the



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Hongkong, March 16, 1866.

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